

# Sleeping Bear Dunes Heritage Trail

CR 669 to CR 651 Trail Extension

Open House



# Welcome

## Tim Stein - Cleveland Township Supervisor

### Study Group Members:

1. Centerville Township
2. Cleveland Township
3. National Park Service
4. Leelanau County Road Commission
5. Michigan Department of Transportation
6. Little Traverse Area Property Owners Association
7. Friends of the Sleeping Bear Dunes
8. TART Trails

Facilitation by Networks Northwest  
Design Consultants from OHM Advisors

# Welcome

## Tonight's Agenda

1. Vision and Guiding Principles of the trail system Julie Clark from TART Trails
2. Trail History and Jurisdiction Tom Ulrich from the National Park Service
3. OHM Advisors' role and the process Lucas Porath, PE, Project Manager from OHM Advisors
4. Project limits and description of tonight's engagement process Vanessa Warren, ASLA, Trail Designer from OHM Advisors
5. Description of the on-line engagement after tonight Larry LaCross, Senior GIS Analyst from OHM Advisors
6. Begin the Open House.



# Trail Mission and Vision

## Trailway Plan: Vision

*Create a non-motorized linear trailway system that is connected to historical, cultural, recreational, and environmental points of interest throughout the Lakeshore and surrounding communities; a Trailway that promotes health, environmental, social, and economic benefits and provides a safe alternative for walking, biking, running, and cross-country skiing; and is universally accessible wherever possible.*

# Trail Mission and Vision

## Sleeping Bear Dunes Heritage Trail Guiding Principles

1. Promote and encourage people to engage in healthy lifestyles benefiting from non-motorized trails.
2. Strengthen trail connections to existing trail heads, communities, and points of interest within the project boundary.
3. Enhance the recreational experience within the Sleeping Bear Dunes National Lakeshore and project area.
4. Incorporate universal design principles with regard to trail alignment, cross-sectional design, and trail head development.
5. Consider the impacts that could occur to the environment and existing ecosystems.
6. Consider the impacts that could occur to historic properties and archeological resources.
7. Design a trail cross-section and trail alignment that is sustainable with regard to materials.
8. Provide a safe non-motorized trail facility.

# Trail History and Jurisdiction

## **Sleeping Bear Heritage Trail**

Hard-surfaced, multi-use trail extending 27 miles through the Lakeshore.

Provides a safe, non-motorized transportation alternative connecting visitor attractions with neighboring communities.

Gives walkers, runners, bicyclists, skiers, wheelchair users, and baby strollers a safe way to access and explore the Lakeshore and neighboring communities.



# Trail History and Jurisdiction

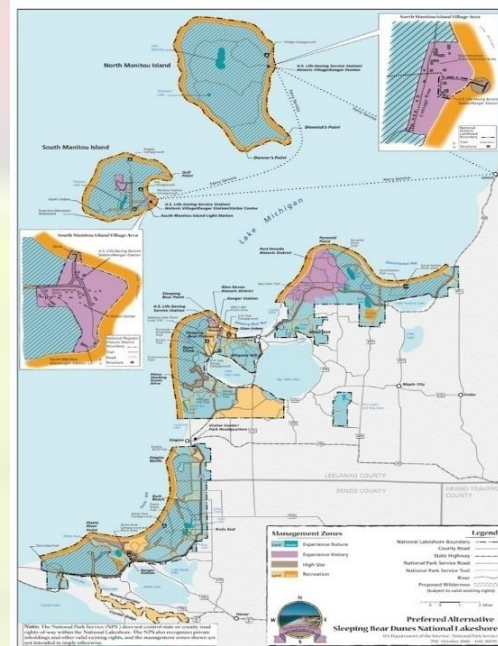
## **Leelanau Scenic Heritage Route (LSHR)**

- Guiding Committee made up of all jurisdictional and citizen interests including nine townships, three villages, county commissions, MDOT, NPS, the Grand Traverse Band, private organizations, and local citizens.
- Added to State Scenic Byways system in 2001.
- Natural and historic resources along the route drive the economy of the region and contribute to the sense of identity of its residents.
- Provides platform from which to qualify for federal and state grants.

# Trail History and Jurisdiction

## 2009 General Management Plan (GMP)

The LSHR proposed the Heritage Trail concept to the Lakeshore early in the GMP process. The concept was evaluated during the associated public planning from 2006-2008. The resulting Final GMP included zoning for the trail through the entire length of the National Lakeshore.





# Trail History and Jurisdiction

## Environmental Compliance

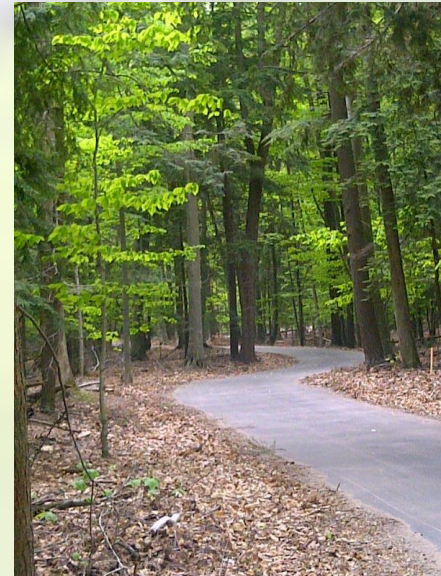
Following the GMP, the NPS completed an Environmental Assessment for 27 miles of trail in Leelanau County. A trail route was selected that provided the best experience for trail users with no significant impacts on the environment, and a FONSI was signed in August 2009.



# Trail History and Jurisdiction

## Construction

The trail is being constructed to AASHTO standards for non-motorized trails. The NPS has entered a Partner Construction Agreement with the Michigan Department of Transportation. For this phase of the trail, MDOT will hold the contract for design engineering and construction of the trail.



# Trail History and Jurisdiction

## Operations and Maintenance

The fundraising plan includes 10% for a maintenance investment account. The account is populated during fundraising therefore, the funds are in hand for each phase by its public opening. The Friends of Sleeping Bear Dunes are partners in an agreement for facility operations and preventative maintenance.



# Trail History and Jurisdiction

## **Decision-making for the Sleeping Bear Heritage Trail**

A bit complicated because of multiple and overlapping governmental roles in the project area.

- The National Park Service must approve/endorse anything proposed for NPS-owned property and/or paid for with project funds raised by the NPS fundraising partner, TART Trails, Inc.
- The Leelanau County Road Commission has permitting authority for any development proposed within their county road rights-of-way.
- The Michigan Department of Transportation has permitting authority for any development proposed within their state highway rights-of-way.
- The Townships' role is to act as facilitators and "influencers" rather than decision-makers

The intent of the study group is to develop a project proposal for the CR 669 to CR 651 segment of the SBHT that will be approved by these three entities, and can qualify for any applicable environmental permits.



# About Us



## ARCHITECTS



## ENGINEERS



## LANDSCAPE ARCHITECTS AND PLANNERS

Project Team  
Lucas Porath  
Larry LaCross  
Vanessa Warren

# Preliminary Design Process

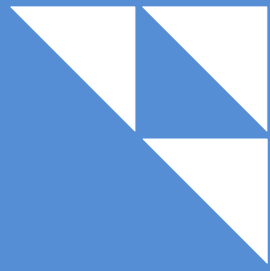
1. Compile existing data, including but not limited to:
  - Wetlands
  - Dunes
  - Streams and natural buffer systems
  - Topography
  - Soils
  - Road right-of-way
  - Property lines
  - Trail Plan and Environmental Assessment
2. Solicit input from local residents and trail users (Tonight's Open House #1).
3. Identify and evaluate viable route alternatives using the data collected.
4. Provide a schematic layout of the trail's alignment with associated costs based on input provided by trail stakeholders.
5. Solicit input from local residents and trail users (Open House #2).
6. Prepare final schematic plans and estimates suitable for grant applications.



# Project Limits for Tonight's Meeting



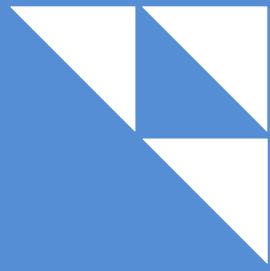
# Tonight's Objective



Generate ideas through a charrette workshop that is intended to:

- Identify values
- Identify needs
- Identify concerns, and
- Establish priorities

# Workshop Mechanics



Informally gather around one of the map stations and draw or write comments down either on the maps themselves or on Sticky Notes that should be placed at the location of your comment.

Members of the Study Group will be located throughout to help answer questions or help formulate your ideas onto the maps.

Keep your comments to this trail extension, which is CR 669 to Good Harbor Trail.

Meeting ends at 7:00 p.m.

# Public Engagement after Tonight



1. Hard copies of the survey will be available at Cleveland and Centerville Township Halls for 2 weeks.
2. A link to a written survey and an interactive public engagement will be available on the Networks Northwest, TART Trails, Inc. and the Sleeping Bear Dunes Heritage Trail webpages.



Thank you  
and let's get started

SLEEPING BEAR  
HERITAGE TRAIL

